

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Ozark National Scenic Riverways

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Ozark National Scenic Riverways News Release

For Immediate Release September 21, 2011 Faye Walmsley 573-323-4844

Stars in the Park: Stargazing at Akers Ferry

Salem, MO – Ever wonder which star was Antares and which was Regulus? Can you locate the Big Dipper or Libra? Do city lights prevent you from seeing the glorious Milky Way?

On Saturday, October 1st at 8:00 p.m., join a Park Ranger and volunteers from the St. Louis Astronomical Society at Akers Ferry to explore and learn about the wonders of our universe during the *Stars in the Park* program. Look through telescopes for close up views of the moon, planets, stars, and possibly galaxies to appreciate the night sky unavailable to the naked eye or hindered by outdoor lighting.

Be prepared for the weather, wear comfortable shoes and bring a flashlight. Visitors with their own telescopes are welcomed to bring them. Ozark National Scenic Riverways is home to mosquitoes, chiggers and ticks, so be prepared. If rainy or cloudy weather is forecast, please call (573) 858-3297 ext. 25 on Friday afternoon, September 30th for cancellation information. Akers Ferry is located at the intersection of State Routes K and KK, both of which intersect State Route 19. The intersection is about 15 miles south of Salem, Missouri. The *Stars in the Park* program is FREE.

For more information, phone (573) 858-3297 ext. 25 or visit the park's website at www.nps.gov/ozar. Ozark National Scenic Riverways preserves the free-flowing Current and Jacks Fork Rivers, the surrounding natural resources, and the unique cultural heritage of the Ozark people.